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THE BANK OF CALIFORNIA

BY PRENTICE MULFORD

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CHAPTER X.

DEATH!

Within three days Pratt and his partner, Hillyear, had completed their cabin. Pratt I saw starting out one morning with horn and hammer I know by these tools he was after quartz. Hillyear remained behind to work the bank near them, probably to make expenses.

Quartz prospectors used to carry a bit of cow's horn, so cut as to form an elliptical shaped bowl. It was better for washing pulverized quartz than the larger gold pan.

Pratt took a route through the chaparral near the base of the mountain on the side where lay our "Bank." I worked a couple of hours in a miserable state of mind and then betook myself to the "Bank," intending there to stay all day and guard it. In imagination I saw Pratt already there gloating over the rich find. I composed the words in which I should first address him. I framed his answer and attitude toward me. I pictured our gradual working up to actual hostilities, and then—I stopped in a slough of indecision.

These were days when all disputes, especially those regarding property, had in time come out of ten, but one mode of settlement. That was by knife or pistol. This was the unwritten law of the land and stronger far than the written, which was generally a mockery at and disregarded for reality.

I was not a fighter. I dreaded the "last resort." I despised myself as a physical coward. I longed for something in my condition which would make me face a pistol or go into a row with as much apparent zest as to "take the chances" as I had known some men to do. I admired such men for their equality (whether a real absence of fear or insensibility to results I know not) and deprecated aye, loathed myself, because I did not rated aye, loathed myself, because I did not feel that way. I saw in imagination everything leading to such termination between myself and Pratt. Whether he would fight or not I never asked. I put him up unconsciously as a man who was "on the shoot"—a desperate character.

True I had struck Fell, the second officer of the Ann Mary Ann, and quite surprised and even gratified I was to find I could strike and even gratified I was to find I could strike and even occasions. But that was done on the impulse of the moment." Had I gone down to cold blood, deliberately, and struck at him, the ship inspecting such an affair, revolving it in my mind, I would not like to have had much wagered on me as to whether I should have gained the to me longed-for mood of physical combativeness.

I arrived at the "Bank." All was silent and undisturbed. I remained there several hours, hearing in every sound the new prospector's approaching footsteps. He did not come. I wished at times he would, and end the waiting and suspense. I wondered where he might be. Finally, my anxiety becoming unendurable, I resolved to try and find out. Softly I let myself down the mountain side through the chaparral toward the river.

I had gone down about three hundred feet, and heard near by the sound of a pick. Creeping through the brush I saw it was Pratt. He dug to the ledge, here but a few inches from the surface, filled his horn with the red dirt and trudged down to the river to wash it. I crept softly after him. Washing the dirt, with what results I could not tell, from his manner he struck up the mountain again and dug another horn full, about one hundred feet to the north of the first. The result of this washing seemed, judging from his manner, more satisfactory. He then traveled a thousand feet further up stream, ascended the mountain again, dug a horn full on a level with the first. He washed it, and shook his head. I presumed he did not get the "color." He dug another horn about two hundred feet nearer the first. The chaparral was more open where he worked, and I could plainly see him from my place of concealment. Evidently this prospect did not satisfy him. The next, taken within one hundred feet of the last, seemed to yield something. The afternoon was now far advanced. Pratt ceased work and took his way home. So did I.

It was some satisfaction for me to find that Pratt had not "hit" directly on the "Bank." Pondering over the matter that night after I had retired, I drew for a time some comfort in the hope that he might drift in his work away from it. This gave me some mental rest until a floral dropped into my head—a new and most alarming theory, based on his motions as seen that day. Pratt's little prospect holes, I noticed, were dug over an area broad at the base of the mountain, but narrowing more and more as he went up. What did that mean? In a flash I saw what, and jumped out of my blankets with the shock of the discovery. He was homing gold which had washed down from the "Bank." The "Bank" did not cover much ground. Probably the colors washed from it by the elements and tear of centuries would not be found at the base of the mountain much beyond a line four or five hundred feet in length. Outside of this, at either end, the soil would be barren of gold. Inside of that number of feet it would yield the color, and that color yielding ground would narrow as it went up the mountain until it reached the top. I had rolled from—the fountain head, the "Bank." Roll a bag of shot down an inclined plane and you have the idea. The farther the shot roll the more will they spread. So with gold rolled from any quartz vein on a mountain side as the top of the vein rock has rotted away and left the metal "free." Pratt was on the true scent. Day by day, narrowing as he went up, was he tracking the game to its den? I had, then, to stay by the claim and watch the enemy's gradual approach.

Next morning I reloaded my six-shooter, previously firing the old charges, which I feared might be damp. A few minutes after I heard Pratt banging away, obviously similarly occupied. I prepared my weapons for coming possibilities with a very faint heart. I did so, only because it was the thing to do—the custom of the country. I felt the whole moral influence of the time (or immoral, if you please) forcing me then to prepare for war, while I was sick of war and all that appertained to it.

By ten o'clock I was on guard again, watching Pratt. The enemy was gradually advancing and converging on our works. He was already one hundred feet higher up and so much nearer the "Bank." His prospect holes now covered only an area of three hundred feet.

By noon he had left off the dredging search and descents of the mountain to the river to wash his prospects. He was occupied entirely with the "float quartz," here thickly scattered about as it had rolled from the vein, knocking the fragments to pieces. He had found gold. Uttering a joyous "Whoop-ee!" he put a chunk of the quartz in his bag, and then another and another. His feelings and mine at that time were certainly in strong contrast to each other.

He crawled up gradually toward the shelf on which lay the "Bank." It inclined somewhat toward the river and then jumped off abruptly, making a perpendicular face four or five feet in height. Pratt could now see that the quartz had rolled from this shelf, and that the vein must be somewhere at or near its top.

"It's up there" I heard him mutter, "and mighty rich, too!"

I heard him scrambling up the wall of rock, assisting himself by roots and bushes growing in the crevices. I heard him panting. All beside was still—the stillness of the California summer noon day—nothing of life in sight save a black buzzard wheeling above, his shadow floating along the ground.

Pratt had gained the top of the shelf. He made his way directly toward the face of the precipice. He burst through the chaparral, and I was disclosed to him, seated on a rock, about ten feet from the vein.

"Halloa!" was his involuntary exclamation; "you here?"

"Yes, I'm here," I replied.

"Well, well!" He was evidently at a loss what next to say or do. "It's a hot day, isn't it?"

"Pretty hot," I remarked. I thought it was or would be soon in every corner, and the shadow of a laugh came over me as I thought of "talking weather" at such a juncture.

Mr Pratt on himself also down upon a rock, drew a rusty red bandanna, mopped with it his face and partly bald head, and said "Whew?" Then he poked the ground before him with the end of his hammer, and I poked Mother Earth before me with a stick.

It was clear to me that Mr. Pratt intended to stay here and wait for my going. It was clear to me that I should remain—though I did not. How to do the situation was somewhat akin to that in which two gentlemen calling on the same lady sometimes find themselves—and of all work sitting your man out ranks among the hardest. Both of us recognized silence as the factor most efficacious for the removal of his adversary—each while Mr Pratt hoped that the dullness of his company might remove me, I had no hope that my taciturnity would remove Mr Pratt from the vicinity of the golden mistress he knew was near.

So we sat one full hour, and the longest hour of my life. Pratt made the first move. He commenced examining the rock near the gold mountain formation. Nearer he advanced toward the place where Breener had screened the worked portion of the vein with a layer of cut brush. He was in the act of removing this when I called out "Don't touch that brush, please!"

"Why not?" said Pratt, looking back.

"Never mind why not. Don't touch it," I said advancing toward him, feeling as if on my way to the scaffold.

"Well, young man, do you own this mountain?" he said.

"I own that brush, that's all," was my reply.

The brush was ranged against the white streak of rock for not more than ten or twelve feet. Pratt passed it. His eye fell on one end of the vein—untouched there by the pick. He commenced chipping it with his hammer.

"You must let that rock alone," I said, going toward him.

Pratt was now up and doing. The war had commenced.

"Oh come!" he exclaimed "don't you fool around me any more. You must be off your head. This mountain's as much mine as yours."

"That's my claim," I said. "Let it alone."

Momentary wonder showed itself in Pratt's eyes that any one else should know of gold in the form.

"Your claim," said he "up here! What cart of diggings do you call these anyway?"

"Perhaps you know as well as I. But that's my claim by right of discovery."

"Where's your notices?"

The written notice on the ground was then indispensable to hold a claim. We had none. Breener had put none up, knowing it would attract attention.

"Where's your tools?" he continued.

Tools left on a claim were regarded as most important proofs of possession. Breener had hidden away those he used—where I knew not.

"No notices, no tools and no work done, and you call this a claim?" said Pratt derisively.

Clearly as to the mining rights of the period Pratt had the best of me. I felt the moral weakness of the situation. Pratt seemed also to know his own strength and my weakness in this respect. Meantime he had taken out his six-shooter and cocked it. He stood facing me, and had the "drop" on me. I was powerless.

"Now, young man," said he, "I give you whilst I count ten to get off this ground, and if you don't I'll put a ball through you. Do you hear? Get! Vamos! One—two—three—"

As he spoke he made a step backward. It was all a jumble of rocks about a light wooden frame. There was no wooden door to knock against, or any other method to rouse the inmates save by calling. Call I did, but Hillyear seemed sleeping the sleep of the just. At last, out of patience, I pitched a rock into the frail structure. It tore through the cloth. Hillyear's reply was a shot, which was not to be wondered at.

"For heaven's sake, Hillyear, don't fire! It's me. I've found Pratt. He's hurt badly," I cried.

"Who's me?" asked Hillyear, after one of his periods of silence.

I heard him cocking his pistol. "It's I—Holder. Come and help me get Pratt down off the mountain. He's lying there with a gash in his head."

Mr Hillyear now relapsed into silence. I knew not whether he was trying to frame an idea into a sentence or peering out to get an aim at me.

"Ain't you coming?" I cried at last. "Are you going to help me get Pratt down. He'll die before we get to him."

"How—did—you—come—to—find—him?" came at length from Mr Hillyear's lips, with a sort of clownish judicial gravity.

"Good heavens!" I said. 'Will you stay there all night and ask questions, while your partner is bleeding to death! Do you suppose I'd get out of my bed to stand and call here like a fool for nothing?"

"What's the music?" cried a voice in the darkness. It was Bill Sefter, who lived about an eighth of a mile distant. He had come, roused by the shot and the sound of voices.

"I've found Pratt badly hurt on Scrub mountain, and am trying to get Hillyear to help me down with him. Hillyear won't believe me, as that's what's the matter."

"Hillyear, get up! Don't be a fool," said Sefter.

Hillyear finally replied: "All—right! I'm—comin'" with an expression as if he had had no doubts as to the genuineness of the news, and had but momentarily heard of it.

Our party reached Pratt, where I had left him. With great difficulty we managed to carry him down the mountain. His utterances on the way down all bore vaguely on quartz hunting and the last scene of which he had been conscious while in his right mind. To Sefter they were a puzzle. To Hillyear, I knew not how much or how little meaning they conveyed. To myself they were a source of great uneasiness. They bore first on the secret of our claim. Next, they might confirm a suspicion, which, if not already developed, I knew was likely to be, through the singular circumstances attending my finding Pratt so far up Scrub mountain in the dead of night. It needed but a word of his delirious utterance to make known that we had quarreled.

We left Pratt in his cabin. Sefter, whose curiosity was evidently much aroused, said to me, just what I expected he would:

"How did you come to find Pratt away up there?"

I told Sefter that I heard Pratt's voice in the night up the mountain, which was true, but not in the sense I left Sefter to infer. I held that evasion was justifiable under the circumstances. It's not so much what we tell that may damage us as the construction placed on it by those it may be told to. The only way I know of when certain questions are asked that many people will ask, to avoid evasion or untruthfulness, is to say "it's none of your business." That, as society is now constituted and complicated, would be quite impossible.

"I wonder who shot him?" continued Sefter.

"Shot himself, maybe." I replied.

"Queer business, anyway," was Sefter's final remark, as he trudged off home.

I saw by his manner that he was full of curiosity, and being full of curiosity would be soon full of theories as to the cause of Pratt's hurt, and that as curiosity and theories are contagious, he would in a short time inoculate all Bull Bar with them.

Next day I visited Pratt. His head had been hurt both by the ball and the fall. The ball had gashed the temple—not very deeply. The concussion from the fall seemed to have most affected him. That one or other of these wounds had affected his brain was very evident without the pompous declaration of the physician, who had been summoned, to that effect.

Sefter was present when I entered. Pratt was lying on his bed silent but the sight of me seemed to excite his brain to action, and set in motion the thoughts, scenes and emotions common to the occurrence at the claim.

They ran dangerously near, but did not actually reveal me as a participator.

"No tools! no notices!" he cried. "Pretty way to hold a claim."

"What claim, Pratt?" said Sefter.

The sick man's eye fell on Sefter with a gleam of cunning. "No claim," he said. "We're after rattlesnake oil. Hunting snakes in the chaparral. There's one now—on the lead. If yer not off while I count ten, I'll put a ball through yer. One—two—three—oh!" and he shrieked as if with pain.

Hillyear spoke:

"He—must—be kept—quiet. It—is the—doctor's—orders. The—doctor—says—his—salivarium—is—something—or—other."

"Queer business—queer business!" was Sefter's remark, as we left the house together. "I think he's had a shootin' scrape with somebody."

Breener returned. I felt that I could now shift a part of the business to other shoulders.

He heard my story. At its conclusion the settler back and laughed.

"Regular dime novel, isn't it?" said he. "Write it, print it, sell it. Well, young man, you're improving rapidly. I congratulate you. I couldn't have wished you anything better than the experience you've gone through. You needed it. You're the kind that must be put in very hot water to draw anything out of you."

"But won't this put all Bull Bar on the scent of the 'Bank'?" I asked.

"First, let's compound some whisky with sugar, lemons and nutmeg. Before we talk business let's fix things so as to make business a pleasure, not by pouring the stuff down raw as the fools do at the store yonder, but dress up the fluid decently and tastefully before we put it down. There would be far less drunkards if every man was compelled by law to dress up and trim up his drinks in this way before he swallowed them." He continued as he sipped his punch: "Make yourself easy, Holder, about the claim. You have fixed that all right, or the Fates have for you. Pratt won't go up there for a while, now that his wits are knocked out of his head, which for our purpose is better far than knocking them out of his body. Because I'm fool enough to believe that if his wits were out of his body they'd be in much better shape to come back and reveal our secret than as they now are chained to a cracked skull, and therefore in bad working order. Hillyear, from what you say, is, I judge, only an appendage of Pratt's, and not able to do anything without him. At all events, I'll find out soon. As for the 'Bank,' I think I've got the cream out of it already. It's only a feeler to some bigger vein in the mountain. That can lay for awhile. I've got four or five caches of quartz up there that I haven't shown you. We'll get it all down this week and hush up things for the present. There's, I think, your fair share of divvy, so far as we've gone," and he put in my hands a mint certificate of deposit for $14,000. "If the rock that's mined out gives down as I think it will, you'll have as much more coming to you. Are you satisfied?"

Satisfied! Less than a year from home and the possessor of what in Eastport was deemed a "small fortune." In the well-worn phrase, I wanted to "pour forth my thanks."

I said: "I wish I could fitly express my feeling and gratitude to you."

"I'm glad you can't," said Breener, interrupting me. "It's a good thing for you that you can't. I hate effusiveness. You may in part thank your reticence and undemonstrativeness for what you call your luck. I don't want any gushers about me. Besides, you've earned what you got—every cent of it. Fate put you and me together, and with that put it in your way. There's no thanks nor gratitude in the matter. I hate people always overwhelmed with gratitude. They're the sort who, if ever they do you what's called a favor, never forget it, and, in effect, want to be paid for it forever afterward. Let's change the subject. There's a traveling theatre company at Chinese Camp to-night. Let's go and see the show. You need a change from the ghastly business, and I'll take mine, and we'll gallop over there."

On applying, Mr. Rankin said he would gladly hire me his horse. The animal, he added, was vicious, shied at his own shadow, "bucked" frequently and had been the death of two men. As we were leaving he called out to Breener: "The coroner lives at one end of the camp and is Eighteen" on an inquest when sober. The undertaker lives at the other. You'd better take the cloth for the young man's shroud along with you. They know that horse up there and always put an extra ten cents a yard on white linen when they see him comin'."

It seemed another world in that land when riding by night. The sun's hot glare was gone. The air after nightfall was always cool and refreshing, for it came off the snow-banks on the Sierra summits. Our horses were full of life and apparently as glad to make the trip as ourselves. The life of the horse seems to add life to the rider, providing he is a "horseman." Distance at night seems unnoticed. It is more like a dream. One travels forward without so much of that mental straining to reach one point after another as do so often our unhappily constituted hurrying minds in the day time.

So galloped Breener and I, regarding those myriad shining wonders of all ages—the stars.

"Lot's of 'em, aren't there?" said he.

"The stars? Yes."

"Small potatoes we are under them. Smaller than ants in comparison, and moving about on this planet for these shining atoms we call gold. I wonder, now, of what importance poor Pratt, if he had his senses, would consider that biggest star alongside of a pan full of dust. Pratt would trade Venus for a quartz claim."

"Stars, speculation, immortality, etc.," said Breener, as we rode on. "The three seem to go together; or, at all events, stars always start one on those topics. I wonder what we are, anyway—who we are, where we came from, and all the rest. I am a certain amount of life and intelligence in a body. Body's only a garment, a wrap, a machine. Hit a part of the body hard enough, just one blow, and in one second life's all gone, and with it the 'gumption' I've been storing up for years. Hit it not quite as hard, like the crack poor Pratt gave himself, and the intelligence stays but goes to flinders—all hurly-burly. Problem when you bore a hole with a bullet through a man's head, does all his intellect go out through that hole, and, if so, where does it go to? and might there not be some way of putting a bucket or basin under such a man's head when he's dying, and collecting his intelligence, his quiet sense for one's own use, just as they tap trees for maple sugar! Well, one thing's certain, we're here, anyway, and I put it up that the best plan is to get all the fun we can out of it—body, soul, mind, spirit, and any other little addition the theologians, philosophers and metaphysicians can tack on us."

We rode into the "camp." In the language of the time, it was "bilin'." The theatre company had brought in miners from far and near. It was a single straight street. From every door and window on either side poured a flood of light, for every house on the street, of wood or cloth, was either store, saloon, gambling-tent or some place of public resort. Sidewalk, street and houses were alike full of men. The "fandango" was already in full blast. Here, alone, were seen women—dark-skinned senoritas in white dresses, some having their waists encircled by broad bands of pure gold. Riders were momentarily coming in, some urging their horses at a breakneck pace through the street. The air was filled with a medley of sounds—which time he has used it in his family for all Coughs and Colds with best results. Thus is the experience of thousands whose lives have been saved by this Wonderful Discovery. Trial Bottle free at A. B. Armstrong's drug store.

music, shouts, laughter, the hum of several hundred voices gathered in so small an area, the clink of glasses and an occasional yell from some miner giving vent in this way to the emotions within him developed by whisky.

"Come," said Breener. "Let's take a look at the fandango. Everybody goes there either to dance or look on. It's not the low dance house of an old city. You will find there the leading merchants of the place, the banker, the lawyer, the judge, and all the other present pillars of society, in this new world of adventurers. Society here, you say, is in a state of effervescence, and everybody's at the top. Hence there's now no bottom. Nor are these Mexican and Californian girls like the 'abandoned of our American or English cities. They don't get drunk, won't pick your pockets, and though morality sits lightly on them, still they have a certain respect for themselves which keeps them out of gutters."

We went in. Breener was soon whirling one of these tawny beauties about in a waltz. I followed his example. The dance over, we

I followed his example.

"treated" our partners at the bar, as customary, to harmless soda, the only beverage they took, made a pretence of drinking ourselves and left for the theatre.

As we were entering the theatre Breener said "You must go home alone to-night. I shall not return till some time to-morrow."

(To be Continued.)

Good Results in Every Case.

D. A. Bradford, wholesale paper dealer of Chattanooga, Tenn., writes, that he was seriously afflicted with a severe cold that settled on his lungs; had tried many remedies without benefit. Being introduced to try Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, did so and was entirely cured by use of a few bottles. Since which time he has used it in his family for all Coughs and Colds with best results. Thus is the experience of thousands whose lives have been saved by this Wonderful Discovery. Trial Bottle free at A. B. Armstrong's drug store.

An End to Bone Scraping.

Edward Shepherd, of Harrisburg, Ill., says: "Having received so much benefit from Electric Bitters, I feel it my duty to let suffering humanity know it. Have had a running sore on my leg for eight years; my doctors told me I would have to have the bone scraped or leg amputated. I used, instead, three bottles of Electric Bitters and seven boxes Bucklen's Arnica Salve, and my leg is now sound and well."

Electric Bitters are sold at fifty cents a bottle, and Bucklen's Arnica Salve at 25c. per box by A. B. Armstrong.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

The Best Salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. Sold by A. B. Armstrong.

For Sale.

The valuable property consisting of a frame dwelling house and barn, a young and thrifty orchard and a good well of water. The property is located one square above the Academy in Smethport borough and known as the Hugh Glenn property. Dr. E. G. Brown will show the property to any one wishing to purchase. For further particulars address Mrs. F. J. WHELAN, Bradford, Pa. 31-tf.

IMPORTANT.

When you visit or leave New York city, save baggage expressage and carriage hire and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite Grand Central Depot.

Elegant rooms fitted up at a cost of one million dollars, reduced to $1 00 and upwards per day. European plan. Elevator. Restaurant supplied with the best. Horse cars, stages and elevated railroad to all depots. Families can live better for less money at the Grand Union Hotel than at any other first class hotel in the city. vol 23 no 11ly

WHY suffer sleepless nights with a distressing cough, while a quarter of a dollar invested in "Sellers' Cough Syrup" will give instant relief.

HOTELS

Chautauqua House

[illegible] Smethport, Pa., H. B. Vincent, Proprietor.

[illegible] has recently been greatly improved and refurnished throughout, it is one of the best hotels in the county. Good [illegible] and conveniences. The table shall be supplied with the best the market affords, and a share of the public patronage is respectfully solicited. [illegible]

WRIGHT HOUSE,

Main Street, Smethport, Penn'a, R. F. Wright, Proprietor.

This hotel is recently built, and is fitted with all the conveniences of a first class hotel. A well stocked and well kept Bar connected with the house. First class in every respect. Rates reasonable.

Grand Central Hotel,

Main Street, Smethport, Pa., F. N. Taylor, Proprietor.

This hotel has recently been renovated and refurnished. The tables and bar are constantly supplied with the best the market affords. First class in every respect. Rates reasonable.

BUCKTAIL HOTEL

Kane, Pa. R. E. Lauder, Proprietor.

Refitted and refurnished, and one of the best hotels in McKean County.

Broezel's Hotel,

Cor. Seneca and Wells streets, Buffalo, N. Y. First class in every respect. John Broezel, Proprietor.

Exchange Hotel,

Cor. W. Kean and Buffalo Depot, East Smethport, Pa. J. H. Sowers, Proprietor.

This hotel is newly made and furnished in all respects for the comfort and convenience of the traveling public.

McKean County Miner

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION,

Payable IN ADVANCE, one year $1.50, six months, 75 cts. three months, 37½ cts.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Advertisements are published at the rate of one dollar per square for one insertion and fifty cents per square for each subsequent insertion.

Letters by the year or for six or three months are low and will be furnished on application at the Executive and administrative notices $3 each for six insertions.

Professional cards, not exceeding one inch $5.00 per year.

Local notices ten cents per line for one insertion, five cents per line for each subsequent insertion.

Obituary notices over five lines, ten cents per line. Notices announcements of births, marriages with or without notices about 5 hundred and to

All communications should be addressed to

L. RUDDOCK,
Editor and Proprietor

Smethport, Pa., May 14, 1886.

CALL FOR THE REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

HEADQUARTERS REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEE
PHILADELPHIA April 14, 1886.

The Republican State Convention will be held in the Opera House at Harrisburg on the first Wednesday of June the 9th 1886 at noon for the purpose of nominating candidates for Judges of the Supreme Court Secretary of Internal Affairs and Legislature at Large and for the transaction of such business as may properly come before it.

The basis of representation throughout the State is especially directed to the following Provision of the Constitution and laws for the holding of State Conventions, and the conduct of its proceedings.

First That the qualified electors of each county shall elect by ballot at the general election in the year 1886 and every third year thereafter as many persons as shall be equal to the number of Senators and Representatives to which such county may be entitled in the Legislature.

Second That the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall at least three months before the first Wednesday in August, 1886, and every third year thereafter, give notice by proclamation of the number of persons to be elected in each county, and the day and place of meeting of the Convention.

Third That no person shall be entitled to a seat in any State Convention as a delegate or alternate unless he shall be a bona fide resident of the county from which he may be chosen.

Fourth That the Chairman and Secretary of each County Committee shall certify to the Secretary of the Commonwealth the number of delegates to which their county is entitled, and the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall publish the same in the newspapers in which the proclamation of the Governor is published.

Fifth That the basis of representation in the State Convention shall be one delegate for every 300 Republican votes and one delegate for a fraction of 150 votes or more cast for the Republican candidate for Governor in 1885.

Sixth That the Chairman and Secretary of each County Committee shall certify to the Secretary of the Commonwealth the number of delegates to which their county is entitled, and the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall publish the same in the newspapers in which the proclamation of the Governor is published.

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McKean County Miner

Smethport Pa. May 14 1886

LOCAL AND HUMOROUS

—Have you seen the comet?

—The H. N. Richmond Hose Co. No. 2 are drilling under the direction of Henry Hartshorn.

—The Opera House should be filled this (Friday) evening for no other purpose than the encouragement of our local musical talent.

—There will be very interesting observation services at the Normal building every evening on the 20th commencing at 7:30 p. m. Fourth prayer meeting next week.

In reading over Richmond letter one might suppose that New York No. 2 was located in the old German town of Limburg over the sea. But Limburg is over in "Limburg" and Fifth Avenue" up there.

The head line tree on front of the court house should be removed. If the commissioners desire to ornament where there can be no shade or embowerment, the very ill timing will be very glad to suggest just that improvement.

Chas B Hamlin who represents the New York Life Insurance Company, probably the strongest of all companies issuing life insurance policies, was in the world to-day, representing the Wright Hamlin agency, which has a considerable number of risks in this county and will look after the interests of the company as represented.

Right on the sun thereat clothier is going to sell his entire stock regardless of cost and positively must have the money necessary to go to Oil City or Bradford to get Spring and Summer goods. He must dissolve and get cash or good notes. He must dissolve and will sell at a tremendous sacrifice. Call at No 9 Keystone Block, Smethport. Pa. Store will be open every day in the week.

PERSONAL MENTION

We would direct the favor of those having fine horses to drive which is literally used by persons by reading a card in this paper.

Mr Lawson Baker was thrown from a horse on Monday last.

Mrs Neal Sumner of Port Allegany was over the week end visiting friends.

Mr and Mrs Geo Jones left Buffalo visited Port Allegany on Saturday last.

Mr and Mrs A Bell of Olean and Mrs Sam Bell visited Duke Center Tuesday last.

Mr J Bell Dodd of Rock Hollow Farm visited Smethport a call on Saturday last.

Mr Sherman Lathrop and wife from Cross Creek visited the latter part of the week.

Mr Wright had charge of the Wright House office the latter part of the week.

Hon. S. B. Elkins arrived in Sunday from Washington and left for Parkersburg on Monday last.

Mr Wright has gone to Buffalo to spend a few days with his family.

Mr and Mrs Wm Bradley left on Monday last for a visit to Buffalo.

Mr Wm Mason of Olean was in town on Monday last.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

BROWN'S IRON BITTERS

PHYSICIANS AND DRUGGISTS RECOMMEND IT.

THE BEST TONIC.

This medicine, combining iron with pure vegetable tonics, quickly and completely Cures Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Weakness, Impure Blood, Malaria, Chills and Fevers, and Neuralgia.

It is an unfailing remedy for Diseases of the Kidneys and Liver.

It is invaluable for Diseases peculiar to Women, and all who lead sedentary lives.

It does not injure the teeth, cause headache, or produce constipation—other iron medicines do.

It is unsurpassed for purifying the blood, stimulating the appetite, aiding the assimilation of food, giving tone to the stomach, and nerves.

For Intermittent Fevers, Lassitude, Lack of Energy, &c., it has no equal.

☞ The genuine has above trade mark and crossed red lines on wrapper. Take no other. Manufactured by BROWN CHEMICAL CO., BALTIMORE, MD.

An Old Soldier's EXPERIENCE.

"I took cold, Dec. 29, 1881, and was soon afterward attacked with a severe cough. I doctored a little, but grew worse until, when I was about in a dangerous condition. I found no relief until on our march we came to a country store, where, on asking for some remedy, I was urged to try Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

"I did so, and was rapidly cured. Since then I have kept the Pectoral constantly by me, for family use, and I have found it to be an invaluable remedy for chronic and lung diseases.

J. W. WHITEHEAD."

Thousands of testimonials certify to the prompt cure of all bronchial and lung affections, by the use of AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL. Being very palatable, the young and children take it readily.

PREPARED BY

Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Sold by all Druggists.

HOTCHKIN CARRIAGE WORKS.

OUR No. 40 WAGON.

We manufacture Open and Top Buggies consisting of the Side Spring, End Spring, Brewster, Tilbury, and Edward Storm Spring.

Also various styles of Two Seated Carriages, Wagons, Cutters and Sleighs.

Liberal discount to the trade.

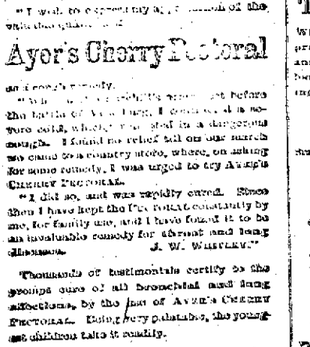
Send for Catalogue and Prices before buying.

HOTCHKIN CARRIAGE WORKS,

Syracuse, N. Y.

A Present!

Our readers by sending 10 cents in postage stamps to pay for mailing same, will receive a package of two handsome and popular pieces of Sheet Music. Entitled "Gathering of all our Presidents, on Inauguration Day," and "Grand Review." Full sheet size, music size, worth $2.00. Address Ridge Publishing Co., Chicago. 26-17



OMNIBUSSES AND LIGHT SPRING WORK FOR Hotels & Livery.

AGENTS WANTED FOR OUR FIRE APPARATUS DEPARTMENT WE MAKE

Hose Reels, Hook & Ladder Trucks, Patrol Wagons, &c.

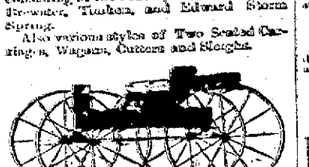
And Fit Out Fire Departments Complete.

And good men of influence can make favorable arrangements with us.

HORTON & CO.,

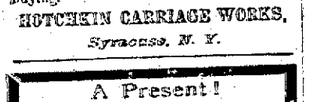
53, 55, 57 & 59 East 5th Street, CINCINNATI, O.

CROWN GRAIN DRILL



Positive force feed for grain, grass or seed for all soils. No gears to change. Has a simple device connected with the grain feed that causes it to sow uniformly. Will sow thinly if desired or all ground evenly, without cracking. Will sow fine or coarse. Has simple phosphate plate that will not clog. Seed cup light to use.

CROWN GRASS SEEDER.



Constructed to sow from 2 to 25 lbs. per acre of grass seed per acre. Very simple. Will not injure the seed. Sows all kinds, from timothy to buckwheat. Best, most reliable and cheapest machine made. Send for Circular to CROWN MFG. CO., Phelps, N.Y. ☞ Mention this paper.

DR. SELLERS'

OVER 1000000 BOTTLES SOLD AND NEVER FAILS TO CURE COUGHS, COLDS, THROAT AND ALL LUNG TROUBLES. ASK DRUGGISTS SELL IT ONCE. 25 CTS.

SELLERS' COUGH SYRUP

DON'T FORGET THAT

WAGON,

Carriage and Blacksmith Shop,

MECHANIC ST., SMETHPORT, PA.

Wm. Masser, - Prop'r.

HORSESHOEING

A SPECIALTY.

The Greatest Care Taken in Shoeing Horses with

Bad Feet!

All kinds of Repairing done to order on short notice.

GLEASON & LEMMLER

Dealers in and Manufacturers of

HARNESS

OF EVERY STYLE AND CHARACTER

Which they will sell at the

LOWEST RATES.

They also keep a full supply of

Saddles, Blankets, Whips, Etc.

Also a large and complete invoice of

TRUNKS & VALISES

Which they propose to sell at manufacturers' prices. Call and examine our stock and prices and become satisfied that it is a waste of time to look elsewhere for goods as well. We can sell you goods as low as any house west of New York for quality.

GLEASON & LEMMLER.

Smethport, Pa., March 11, 1885.

Specht & Sasse,

PRACTICAL UNDERTAKERS,

Having purchased an elegant new Hearse, are prepared to attend all calls incident to their profession

F. J. VICKERY,

DEALER IN

FLOUR, FEED, MEAL AND GRAIN,

AT HIS MILL IN

EAST SMETHPORT, PA.

Fresh Feed and Meal of the best quality constantly on hand which will be sold at the

LOWEST PRICES FOR CASH.

After this date all goods must be paid for on delivery. We propose to SELL FOR CASH and at CASH PRICES.

F. J. VICKERY.

Smethport, Oct. 9th, 1885.

BRICK DRUG STORE!

No. 47 Main Street.

Constantly on hand the Largest and Most Complete Stock of

Patent Medicines, Instruments, Trusses, Fine Wines & Liquors, Condition Powders, Fancy Stationery Toilet Sets, CIGARS, TOBACCO

And a General Supply of Everything Found in a First Class Drug and Fancy store.

Prescriptions Carefully Compounded Day and Night.

Dr's Freeman and Wells Office in Store.

H. C. WELLS

Smethport, Pa., March 6th, 1885.

M. A. SPRAGUE'S

HARDWARE STORE,

Opposite the Grand Central,

IS HEADQUARTERS FOR

Hardware, Stoves, Tinware, House Furnishing Goods SILVERWARE,

Cutlery, Lamps, Glass, Lead, Oils, Paints, Putty, Farmers' and Mechanics' Tools,

In fact everything usually kept in a First Class Hardware Store. The Largest Buyers and Lowest Prices enable me to sell goods at same quality can be bought for less money at the above store than any other place in the Country.

A COMPETENT TINNER

Always on hand ready to do work on short notice.

JAMES T. DONOHUE,

PLUMBER

SMETHPORT, PA.

In the rear of Armstrong's Drug Store.

Lead and Iron Pipe for Water, Gas and Steam Bath Tubs, Water Closets, Kitchen Sinks, Iron Sinks, Pumps, etc.

P. D. HOPKINS

Successor to C. L. Bonham,

Corner Mill and Mechanic Streets,

SMETHPORT, PA.,

Dealer in

DRY GOODS & GROCERIES,

PROVISIONS, BOOTS, SHOES, &c.

Which I am prepared to sell very cheap for Cash.

A GIFT Send 10 cents postage, and we will mail you free a box of goods that will put you in the way of making more money at once, than anything else in America. Both sexes, all ages. Can live at home and work in spare time, or all the time. Capital not required. We will start you. Immense pay sure for those who start at once. TRUE & CO., Portland, Maine.

A PRIZE Send six cents for postage, and we will send you free a royal, valuable sample box of goods which will help you to more money right away than anything else in this world. All, either sex, succeed from first hour. The broad road to fortune opens before the workers, absolutely sure. At once address, TRUE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

VIRGINIA FARMS Mild Climate. Cheap Homes. Southern Colony. Send for circular. J. D. SLEIGH, Deadman, Va.

FARM AND GARDEN

English Shire Horses.

We have given our readers, from time to time, illustrations of the principal breeds of working horses known to civilization. If they have examined the pictures, and read carefully the descriptions accompanying the same, they will be able to distinguish at sight the different breeds that have been presented. They have seen the hay Clydesdale, with his white forehead, white hind feet and shaggy fetlocks, the strong, spirited gray Percheron, the large, stylish Cleveland Bay carriage horse, and the full-blooded Arabian.

This week is presented what at present will be the last of the horse pictures. It is an illustration of the slow, powerful English Shire horse, so called. It is the British cart or dray horse.

"ENGLAND'S GLORY."

The cart horse is a cross between the Flemish and old English draught breeds. Selection and cultivation have made him the lowlathian that appears in the engravings. He can draw a greater load than any other one in the world, is a very elephant of strength, indeed. But he is slow, slower than justice. We give him as a matter of information in this department. In a practical way, however, he is probably too slow and clumsy for use in America. Here vast loads are usually conveyed by steam machinery for even small distances. The cart horse, therefore, is not so desirable as the Clydesdale for farm breeding. He is a noble animal, though.

Educating Horses.

Professor Oscar S. Gleason, who has been giving some remarkable exhibitions in the way of educating horses, has a few simple principles which he applies to produce his astonishing results. First, he says a horse cannot think of two things at once. To break an animal of bad habits the professor begins by confusing him in some way till he does not know what he is about. Not knowing what to do then, he gives in. Another point is that people do not talk to their horses enough. Mr. Gleason says they can be made to understand like children if they are talked to. They are more intelligent, indeed, than people are sometimes, for they know when they are subdued and give in all at once. Often a horse does not obey because he does not know what is wanted of him. A horse's bad habits are always taught him by some fool or ignorant person. He never has them by nature. By patience, kindness, firmness and skill, the worst horse alive can be cured of bad habits. Again, never whip a balking horse after he has started. That will make him think next time that if he starts he will be whipped again, and he will conclude not to budge. When a horse has comprehended, and done what you have told him to do, pat him, and talk to him kindly and encouragingly. Professor Gleason has written a book, with pictures explaining his methods. The curious things which he does, he says anybody may do. He cracks a whip to attract the horse's attention. Then he goes up to one to him and looks him in the eye. Then he backs off slowly, his eye fixed on the animal still. The horse follows him all over the ground. Try it.

Replanting Corn and Tobacco.

Cut worm ravages in corn or tobacco fields may be made good by getting a few hundred or thousand two-inch flower pots—price about $4 per 1,000. When you plant corn plant at the same time four kernels in each pot, and where a hill is missing lift a hill out of one of the pots and replace it. Transplanting out of the pots does not check the growth. The transplanted hills will come right on with the rest. With tobacco, cause right on with the rest. With tobacco, cause right on with the rest. With tobacco, cause